

July 26, 2013

Weekly Views

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) have collaborated to provide firefighting training to the Offender Fire Department at the Indiana State Prison (ISP). The training provides entry-level knowledge for participants to meet performance requirements and perform basic tasks. In the class, participants received classroom and hands-on lessons in topics such as fire behavior, forcible entry and ventilation. (photo below)

Jeanne Fox, who has been with IDOC Parole Services since 1984, was awarded a Fit-Bit by Commissioner Bruce

Lemmon at Central Office in recognition of utilizing State Personnel's new Castlight portal.

The 2013 Experienced and Emerging Leadership Program kicked off the third session at the beach in Michigan City, IN. Commissioner Lemmon, ISP Superintendent Bill Wilson, and Westville Superintendent Mark Levenhagen addressed the class at Washington Park. Groups presented team projects and cost saving ideas on the second day of the session at Red Mill Park in LaPorte, IN.



The Inside Out Dad Program at Pendleton Correctional Facility donated five baby blankets and five tote bags to the Alternatives Incorporated. The totes, made by the offenders from fruit drink pouches, were filled with an assortment of hygiene items that were donated by the facility's PLUS Program. The Alternatives organization is located in Anderson, IN and provides shelter and other services to victims of domestic violence. (photo left)



The Indiana Women's Prison Community Outreach Program hosted a Burger King fundraiser. The ladies enjoyed Whoppers, fish and chicken sandwiches, along with fresh salads and Heresy's pie. Food was brought in from two different stores. The ladies enjoyed the food and raised \$728.91 that will be used to support homeless veterans, schools, nursing homes, hospitals, Susan B Komen Foundation, animal shelters, Indiana Canine Assistant Network and many other organizations.

On a breezy, sunny day in Michigan City, 40 IDOC employees, including the Commissioner, participated in the 1st Annual Healthy Lifestyle 5K Run/Walk. Volunteers cheered on runners and walkers for the three laps around Striebel Pond. It was a great morning for exercise and a promotion of healthy lifestyles. All participants received post-race snacks and a gift bag. Congrats to Katie Kinnaman for placing first and receiving a Fit Bit donated by State Personnel! (photo right)

The Red Cross Bloodmobile visited Camp Summit and was able to collect 15 units of blood from staff who donated. According to the American Red Cross, the drive potentially helped save 45 lives. The Bloodmobile visit, which was coordinated by Camp Summit staffer Mickey Ellch, was part of the IDOC's summer Blood Drive Challenge. (see photo left)



A huge "Congratulations" goes out to the staff at the Westville Correctional Facility for yet another successful Red Cross Blood Drive. The generous people at the facility donated 97 units, their largest to date. During the day and a half of the blood drive, the facility was filled with encouragement, camaraderie and the spirit of teamwork to help others in need of their donation.

Let the picking begin! It is harvest time at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. Approximately 20 pounds of produce was picked including green peppers, yellow squash, zucchini, green beans, cherry tomatoes and full size tomatoes. Of course Wabash garden supervisor Lt. Victor Linneweber notes this is just the beginning and the amounts will continue to grow, but it is a

great start! All items were turned over to WVCF Community Services for distribution to local food banks.

The Education Staff at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility conducted Camp Cardinal. Students worked toward earning "Merit Badges" in a variety of fun and unusual topics. Classes included Traffic Safety, Scuba Diving, Journalism, Indian Lore and Archaeology.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held the facility's 27th PLUS graduation ceremony and celebration. As a group, the graduating students accumulated 250 hours of community service during the 12 week program. The program has maintained a vegetable garden and donates items to the Emmaus Mission and Salvation Army. The garden is just now producing and the unit has donated 50 pounds of produce so far.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted a tent revival aimed at broadening the spirituality of participating offenders. The revival lasted for three days with an attendance of over 200 offenders. Offenders were treated to prayer, sermons, singing and testimonies. The revival was conducted by Dale Brewer of Revival in Prison Ministries with the help of six volunteers.

Deputy Attorney Generals Carl Scharnburg and Dino Pollock, 15 law clerks and IDOC staff Tim Brown and Liz Johnson toured the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The guests observed facility and PEN operations, interacted with offenders, and were given an overview of facility green initiatives.

